



DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Wildlife Resources Section
324 4th Avenue
South Charleston, West Virginia 25303-1228
Telephone 304-558-2771
Fax 304-558-3147

Stephen S. McDaniel
Director

February 27, 2018


TO: Hunters, Anglers, Trappers, Landowners, Farm Groups and Others Interested in Making Recommendations for Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Regulations.

Meetings to solicit your comments concerning the 2018-2019 big game hunting regulations; 2019-2020 hunting and trapping regulations; 2019 fishing regulations; and reptile and amphibian regulations are scheduled for March 12 and 13, 2018.

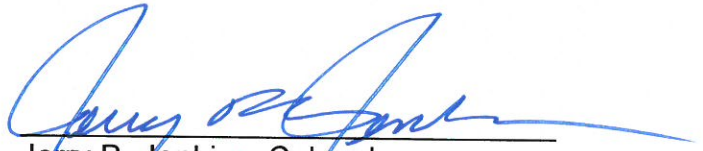
The Division of Natural Resources is recommending most season dates, bag limits and creel limits similar to the 2017-2018 seasons (see recommended changes attached).

In order for us to obtain your recommendations and accurately record them, it is necessary for you to complete and return the attached form prior to April 3, 2018, to the Division of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Section, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, West Virginia, 26241, Attn: Keith Krantz.

Your continued interest in the state's natural resources programs is appreciated.



Paul R. Johansen, Chief
Wildlife Resources Section



Jerry B. Jenkins, Colonel
Law Enforcement Section

Please feel free to comment or provide recommendations on hunting, fishing, amphibian and reptile regulations or on any phase of our wildlife and law enforcement programs. Please use space provided on the following page.
Returning the attached tables is not necessary.

Please complete the following section. Be sure only one form is submitted per individual or organization. Unsigned questionnaires will not be counted.

PLEASE PRINT

Individual, Group, or Organization Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Number of Members _____ Telephone _____

Signed _____ Date _____ County _____

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMMENTS AND THE QUESTIONNAIRE
BY APRIL 3, 2018**

Return To:

Keith Krantz
WV Division of Natural Resources
Wildlife Resources Section
P.O. Box 67
Elkins, WV 26241

HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS COMMENTS:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page, possibly from a composition book. The edges of the paper are slightly irregular, suggesting it might be a scan of a physical document. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.

FISHING, AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE REGULATIONS COMMENTS:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page, possibly from a composition book. The edges of the paper are slightly irregular, suggesting it might be a scan of a physical document. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE
2018-2019 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS**

1. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the 2018 antlerless deer season be open as shown on the attached tables.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

2. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the 2018 black bear season be open as shown on the attached table.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

3. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the 2018-2019 wild boar gun, archery and crossbow season be a split season. The early seasons would follow the current frameworks and the late season is proposed to open on the first Friday in February and run through the following Sunday (for 2019 that would be February 1-3).

Favor _____

Oppose _____

4. The Division of Natural Resources proposes a primitive weapons "Mountaineer Heritage Season" featuring traditional muzzleloading and/or archery equipment for bear and deer (either-sex). Only percussion and flintlock rifles without scopes, and long and recurve bows will be permitted. In addition the use of dogs will not be permitted during this season. The season will run from Thursday, January 10, 2019 through Sunday, January 13, 2019 statewide with the exception that only long and recurve bows may be used in Logan, McDowell, Mingo and Wyoming counties during this season.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

5. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the Special Urban Deer Archery/Crossbow Season be a split season. The initial season will follow the current framework and the late season will be open from Monday, January 14, 2019 through Sunday, January 20, 2019.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

6. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the bobwhite quail hunting season be closed for the 2018-2019 hunting season on the Tomblin Wildlife Management Area and remained closed until further notice. This action is recommended as the agency begins a quail restoration project on the Tomblin WMA.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

7. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that all other big game hunting regulations for the 2018-2019 hunting seasons be open as shown on the attached table.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE
2019-2020 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS**

1. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that all other hunting and trapping regulations for the 2019-2020 seasons be open as shown on the attached table.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE
2019 FISHING REGULATIONS**

1. The Division of Natural Resources proposes to establish catch-and-release trout fishing on Middle Fork of Williams River and tributaries, Webster and Pocahontas Counties, Tea Creek (Upstream of the Tea Creek Campground) and tributaries, Pocahontas County, Red Creek (Upstream of at CR 45 Bridge) and tributaries, Tucker County, Otter Creek and tributaries, Randolph and Tucker Counties.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

2. The Division of Natural Resources proposes to establish a fly-fishing-only regulation for Edwards Run (Upstream of the Edwards Run Pond 1.25 miles to the upstream boundary of the Edwards Run Wildlife Management Area) in Hampshire County.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

3. The Division of Natural Resources proposes to establish a slot limit at Parker Hollow Lake in Hardy County for all black bass (smallmouth, spotted and largemouth) from 12 to 16 inches long in total length must be returned to the water at once.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

4. The Division of Natural Resources proposes an exclusion from the one black bass (smallmouth, spotted and largemouth) 18 inches or longer length restriction for registered bass tournaments at Stonewall Jackson Reservoir.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

5. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that all other fishing regulations for 2019 would be the same as those in 2018.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE
2018 REPTILE REGULATIONS**

1. The Division of Natural Resources proposes to add the grey rat snake (*Pantheriophis spiloides*) to the existing established seasons and limits for reptiles in West Virginia.

Favor _____

Oppose _____

PROPOSED 2018 ANTLERLESS DEER SEASON HUNTING REGULATIONS (PRIVATE LAND)

Counties or Parts Thereof Closed to Antlerless (Class N/NN) Hunting	Counties or Parts Thereof Open to Limited Licenses for Resident and Non-resident (Must Apply) (Season Bag Limit: 1) Oct. 25-28; Nov. 19-Dec. 1; Dec. 6-9; Dec. 28-31	Counties or Parts Thereof Open to Unlimited Resident Class N and Nonresident Class NN (Season Bag Limit: 1) Oct. 25-28; Nov. 19-Dec. 1; Dec. 6-9; Dec. 28-31	Counties or Parts Thereof Open to Unlimited Resident Class N and Nonresident Class NN (Season Bag Limit: 3) Oct. 25-28; Nov. 19-Dec. 1; Dec. 6-9; Dec. 28-31	Counties or Parts Thereof Open to Unlimited Resident Class N and Nonresident Class NN. <i>(*see special regulation requirement below)</i> (Season Bag Limit: 3) Oct. 25-28; Nov. 19-Dec. 1; Dec. 6-9; Dec. 28-31
Fayette (west portion) Kanawha (south portion) Raleigh (west portion) Wayne	Boone (300) Greenbrier (north portion - 200) Lincoln (400) Mineral (west portion - 200) Pocahontas (300) Raleigh (east portion - 250) Webster (300)	Braxton Brooke Clay Fayette (east portion) Hancock Marion Marshall Mason Mercer Nicholas Ohio Pleasants Randolph Summers Tucker Wetzel	Barbour Cabell Gilmer Grant Harrison Jackson Jefferson Kanawha (north portion) Lewis Monongalia Morgan Pendleton Putnam Roane Taylor Upshur Wirt	Berkeley Calhoun Doddridge Greenbrier (south portion) Hampshire Hardy Mineral (east portion) Monroe Preston Ritchie Tyler Wood

**In these counties, hunters are required to take an antlerless deer, which may be taken during any deer season open to antlerless deer hunting, prior to harvesting a second antlered deer during the combined deer seasons.*

PROPOSED 2018 ANTLERLESS DEER HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR PUBLIC LANDS

Season Dates: Nov. 19 - Dec. 1, 2018; Dec. 6 - 9, 2018; and Dec. 28 - 31, 2018

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS OPEN TO LIMITED LICENSES FOR RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT CLASS N/NN ANTLERLESS SEASON – BAG LIMIT OF 1		
Blackwater WMA (100) (Preston/Tucker Cos.)	Greenbrier SF (50) (Greenbrier Co.)	Little Canaan WMA (50) (Tucker Co.)
Bluestone WMA (100) (Summers/Mercer/Monroe Cos.)	Hillcrest WMA (25) (Hancock Co.)	Seneca SF (50) (Pocahontas Co.)
Calvin Price SF (50) (Pocahontas Co.)	Kumbrabow SF (50) (Randolph Co.)	

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS OPEN TO UNLIMITED LICENSES FOR RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT CLASS N/NN ANTLERLESS SEASON – BAG LIMIT OF 1			
Amherst/Plymouth WMA (Putnam Co.)	Canaan Valley NWR (Tucker Co.)	Mill Creek WMA (Cabell Co.)	Snake Hill WMA (Monongalia/Preston Cos.)
Beech Fork WMA (Cabell/Wayne Cos.)	Coopers Rock SF (Monongalia/Preston Cos.)	Pleasant Creek WMA (Barbour/Taylor Cos.)	Upper Mud River WMA (Lincoln Co.)
Big Ugly WMA (Lincoln Co.)	Green Bottom WMA (Cabell/Mason Cos.)	Pruntytown WMA (Taylor Co.)	Wallback WMA (Roane/Clay/Kanawha Cos.)

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS OPEN TO UNLIMITED LICENSES FOR RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT CLASS N/NN ANTLERLESS SEASON – BAG LIMIT OF 3		
McClintic WMA (Mason Co.)		

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS CLOSED TO ANTLERLESS SEASON		
Beaver Dam WMA (Randolph Co.)	Handley WMA (Pocahontas Co.)	Rimel WMA (Pocahontas Co.)
Becky Creek WMA (Randolph Co.)	Little River WMA (Pocahontas Co.)	Slatyfork WMA (Pocahontas/Randolph Cos.)
Camp Creek SF (Mercer Co.)	Neola WMA (Greenbrier/Pocahontas Cos.)	Tea Creek WMA (Pocahontas/Randolph/Webster Cos.)
Cheat WMA (Randolph Co.)	Otter Creek WMA (Randolph/Tucker Cos.)	Morris Creek WMA (Kanawha Co.)
Cranberry WMA (Nicholas/Webster/Pocahontas/ Greenbrier Cos.)	Potts Creek WMA (Monroe Co.)	

All other WMAs and public lands will have the same regulations as it relates to bag limits as private land in the respective county or portion of county where the WMAs or other public lands are located; with the exception that these WMAs and public lands will be open during the dates listed above.

Proposed 2018 Black Bear Seasons

Statewide bag limit two, provided at least one bear comes from Boone, Fayette, Kanawha, Logan, McDowell, Mingo, Nicholas, **Preston**, Raleigh or Wyoming counties

Archery and Crossbow Season – 55 counties: Sept. 29 – Dec. 31

Gun Seasons: Refer to Table Below

7-Day Gun With or Without Dogs Oct. 6 – Oct. 12 13-Day Gun Without Dogs Nov. 19 – Dec. 1 4-Week Gun With or Without Dogs Dec. 3 – Dec. 31	16-Day Gun With or Without Dogs Sept. 1 – Sept. 16 4-Week Gun With or Without Dogs Dec. 3 – Dec. 31	7-Day Gun With or Without Dogs Sept. 22 – Sept. 28 4-Week Gun With or Without Dogs Dec. 3 – Dec. 31	6-Week Gun Without Dogs Nov. 19 - Dec. 1 Dec. 3 - Dec. 31	4-Day Gun Without Dogs October 25 – 28 No Permit Required Private Land Only Portions of Counties Open for Deer Hunting	13-Day Gun Without Dogs Nov. 19 – Dec. 1 No Permit Needed Entire County Open	4-Week Gun Without Dogs Dec. 3 - Dec. 31
Boone Fayette Kanawha Raleigh	Logan McDowell Mingo Wyoming	Barbour (E. of Rt. 92) Braxton (E. of I-79) Clay (S. of Elk River) Grant Greenbrier Hardy Mineral (W. of New Creek) Monroe (E. of Rt. 219) Nicholas Pendleton Pocahontas Preston Randolph Tucker Upshur (E. of Rt. 20) Webster	Berkeley Brooke Cabell Calhoun Doddridge Gilmer Hampshire Hancock Harrison Jackson Jefferson Lewis Lincoln Marion Marshall Mason Mercer Monongalia Morgan Ohio Pleasants Putnam Ritchie Roane Summers Taylor Tyler Wayne Wetzel Wirt Wood	Berkeley Boone Fayette Hampshire Jefferson Kanawha Mercer Monroe Morgan Nicholas Preston Raleigh Summers	Barbour Braxton Clay Grant Greenbrier Hardy Mineral Monroe Nicholas Pendleton Pocahontas Preston Randolph Tucker Upshur Webster	Barbour (W. of Rt. 92) Braxton (W. of I-79) Clay (N. of Elk River) Mineral (E. of New Creek) Monroe (W. of Rt. 219) Upshur (W. of Rt. 20)

**Proposed Opening and Closing Dates for the 2018-2019
Big Game Hunting Seasons**

Species	Opening & Closing Dates	Comments/Changes
Mountaineer Heritage Season Deer and Bear (Primitive Weapons)	Jan. 10, 2019 - Jan. 13, 2019	Percussion side lock and flintlock rifles, long and recurve bows only
Bear (Archery & Crossbow)	Sept. 29, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018	The split season for designated counties will be eliminated.
Bear (Gun) {Selected Counties} {Selected Counties} {Selected Counties} {Selected Counties} {Selected Counties}	Sept. 1, 2018 - Sept. 16, 2018 Sept. 22, 2018 - Sept. 28, 2018 Oct. 6, 2018 - Oct. 12, 2018 Oct. 25, 2018 - Oct. 28, 2018 Nov. 19, 2018 - Dec. 1, 2018 Dec. 3, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018	See Attached Bear Tables for Selected Counties
Boar (Gun)	Oct. 27, 2018 - Nov. 3, 2017 Feb. 1, 2019 - Feb. 3, 2019	split season
Boar (Archery & Crossbow)	Sept. 29, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018 Feb. 1, 2019 - Feb. 3, 2019	split season
Deer (Archery & Crossbow - Special Urban)	Sept. 8, 2018 - Dec.31, 2018 Jan. 14, 2019 - Jan. 20, 2019	split season
Deer (Archery & Crossbow)	Sept. 29, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018	
Deer (Bucks Only)	Nov. 19, 2018 - Dec. 1, 2018	
Deer (Antlerless) {Selected Counties}	Oct. 25, 2018 - Oct. 28, 2018 Nov. 19, 2018 - Dec. 1, 2018 Dec. 6, 2018 - Dec. 9, 2018 Dec. 28, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018	See Attached Deer Tables For Selected Counties
Deer (Youth/Q/XS Season - Antlerless)	Oct. 20, 2018 Dec. 26, 2018 - Dec. 27, 2018	
Deer (Muzzleloader)	Dec. 10, 2018 - Dec. 16, 2018	Season moved back 1-week
Turkey (Fall) - (4 week counties)	Oct. 13, 2018 - Oct. 20, 2018 Oct. 29, 2018 - Nov. 17, 2018	
Turkey (Fall) - (2 week counties)	Oct. 13, 2018 - Oct. 20, 2018 Oct. 29, 2018 - Nov. 3, 2018	Fall counties determined after 2018 spring gobbler season
Turkey (Fall) - (1 week counties)	Oct. 13, 2018 - Oct. 20, 2018	Fall counties determined after 2018 spring gobbler season
Turkey (Spring Youth Season)	April 13, 2019	
Turkey (Spring 2019)	April 15, 2019 - May 11, 2019	

Proposed Opening and Closing Dates for the 2019-2020 Hunting and Trapping Seasons

Species	Opening & Closing Dates	Comments/Changes
Squirrel	Sept. 14, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Squirrel (Youth)	Sept. 7, 2019	
Raccoon (Hunting)	Oct. 12, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Raccoon (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Ruffed Grouse	Oct. 12, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Quail (Tomblin WMA closed)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Jan. 4, 2020	Tomblin WMA closed to quail hunting season
Rabbit	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Snowshoe Hare	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Ring-necked Pheasant (Statewide) (Hillcrest WMA)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Jan. 4, 2020 Nov. 9, 2019 - Dec. 7, 2019	
Fox (Hunting & Trapping) (Hunting at night with artificial light)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020 Jan. 1, 2020 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Bobcat (Hunting & Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Mink/Muskrat (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Fisher (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Jan. 31, 2020	
Beaver (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Mar. 31, 2020	
Otter (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Crow (Hunting)	Oct. 1, 2019 - Nov. 16, 2019 Jan. 1, 2020 - Mar. 7, 2020	
Skunk/Opossum/Coyote/Weasel/ Woodchuck/English Sparrow/European Starling/Pigeon (Hunting)	Continuous Open Season	
Coyote (Hunting at night with artificial light)	Jan. 1, 2020 - July 31, 2020	
Skunk/Opossum/Coyote/Weasel (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Elk, Song & Insectivorous Birds, Hawks, Owls, Falcons & Eagles	No Open Season	